

# — ROBERT — BIALE VINEYARDS

## 2023 HEMINWAY VINEYARD

### NAPA VALLEY ZINFANDEL

In not so far off memory Napa Valley was not the epicenter of wine and food that it has become today. Instead, in the 1960's, Napa was a rural refuge from the greater Bay Area, where a quieter pace could be found amongst the farming community working between the Mayacamas and the Vacas. Into that world, Jay Heminway, a sculpting teacher at UC Berkeley, plunged himself when he purchased what would become Green & Red Vineyard in 1969.

Sitting on the eastern edges of Napa County, nestled in the Vaca Mountains, Jay began planting Zinfandel, carving his ultimate masterpiece into the hills. With terraced vineyards rising to 2000 feet above sea level, Green & Red sits between the southern end of Howell Mountain and the northern edge of Pritchard Hill, standing apart as a truly unique site in the greater Napa Valley.

This wine is sourced from Green & Red's Tip Top Vineyard, near the peak of the property where the gravelly terraces yield a wine that combines delicacy and vibrance of fruit with density and structure. We name with wine Heminway to honor Jay's dedication to Zinfandel and to the living sculpture that are these vines.

#### VINTAGE NOTES:

The 2023 season was one of the coolest vintages in more than a decade that, as time progressed, showed all the markings of the spectacular vintage that ended up in the bottle. Several years of drought were erased in a single season as rains began just after the completion of the 2022 harvest and continued through the spring of 2023. Ample ground water and cool temperatures delayed budbreak until April with flowering in mid-May. Moderate temperatures through the spring and summer allowed for balanced maturation across all vineyards - allowing us to pick at the perfect intersections of flavor, sugar, acid, and tannin maturity. Harvesting at Robert Biale began with earlier sites in September while moderate heat at the start of October accelerated picking that lasted through the end of the month.

#### WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

Vibrant notes of raspberry, cherry, crushed peppercorns, and chaparral on the nose. Broad across the palate with notes of bramble, strawberry preserves, lavender, and cedar all driven by balanced acidity and framed by moderate tannins.

294 cases produced



<b>Harvest</b>	October 5 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Aging</b>	15 months French oak; 25% new
<b>pH</b>	3.75
<b>TA</b>	5.2 g/L
<b>Alcohol</b>	14.8%
<b>Accolades</b>	Wine Spectator 94 James Suckling 94 Owen Bargreen 94 Wine Advocate 93 Vinous 93 Jancis Robinson 16.5+